



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

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## EU-27

### Livestock and Products

### European Council further relaxes BSE rules

**2008**

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**Report Highlights:**

At its June 23-24, 2008 meeting, the European Council endorsed a first relaxation of the feed ban of animal proteins for ruminants by allowing fishmeal as a milk replacer for unweaned calves.

A request by Belgium, endorsed by a further twelve Member States, was noted for a reduction of the number of BSE tests for active BSE surveillance.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Annual Report  
Brussels USEU [BE2]  
[E4]

On June 23, 2008, the [Agricultural Council](#)<sup>1</sup> supported amending Annex IV of the BSE [Regulation \(EC\) No 999/2001](#)<sup>2</sup>. This will allow the use of fishmeal as a milk replacer in the feed of unweaned calves, as well as the exports of processed pet food containing processed animal proteins from ruminants. The amendment marks the first relaxation of the ban of animal proteins in ruminant feed as part of the [TSE Roadmap](#)<sup>3</sup>.

During the same meeting, the Council took note of a request by the Belgian delegation to reduce, starting January 2009, to reduce the number of tests to be carried out for BSE active surveillance. No new BSE cases have been recorded in Belgium since October 2006. Belgium performed about 360,000 BSE tests on cattle during 2007. This request was supported by Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Ireland, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Italy and Slovenia and is also one of the goals of the TSE roadmap.

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**Related reports from USEU Brussels with info on EU policies:**

Report Number	Title	Date Released
E48004	<a href="#">Update on the European animal disease situation</a>	01/16/2008
E47079	<a href="#">EU Midyear 2007 BSE update</a>	09/14/2007
E35164	<a href="#">EC presents TSE roadmap</a>	08/23/2005
These reports can be accessed through our website <a href="http://useu.usmission.gov/agri/">http://useu.usmission.gov/agri/</a> or through the FAS website <a href="http://www.fas.usda.gov/scripts/attacherep/default.asp">http://www.fas.usda.gov/scripts/attacherep/default.asp</a> .		

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms\\_Data/docs/pressData/en/agricult/101422.pdf](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/pressData/en/agricult/101422.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2001:147:0001:0040:EN:PDF>

<sup>3</sup> [http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/food/biosafety/bse/roadmap\\_en.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/food/biosafety/bse/roadmap_en.pdf)